

Date: January 28, 1998

To: ESA Compliance Team

From: Tiki

Subject: ESA Compliance Team Meeting: Summary

Based on discussions at our meeting today, the following revisions need to be made to the Preliminary Working Draft (1/23/98) State and Federal ESA Compliance text:

I. Overview

1. Clarify that Conservation Strategy will cover listed, proposed, and candidate species and other species identified by CALFED as covered species. Also state that only those species for which adequate information is available will be covered by the Conservation Strategy.
2. Expand on the following and move to a more prominent position in the Overview: ❖The Conservation Strategy for the species and/or habitat will be the same regardless of the implementing mechanism used to authorize take.❖
3. Add statements or paragraph on overall CALFED Program phasing and timing, i.e., Phase II and Phase III. (Sharon to provide)
4. Explain the timing and circumstances of take authorization: some take may be authorized at the end of Phase II for those actions that are adequately defined (possibilities may include some ERPP actions, levee actions, interim system operations, and others); other actions won't be adequately defined until Phase III.
5. Refine the explanation of take to be authorized in the discussion found in third paragraph.
6. Briefly describe relationship between ERPP and the Conservation Strategy.
7. Add graphics that describe: (1) the overall ESA compliance strategy, including the Conservation Strategy; (2) the importance of the conservation ❖package,❖ including ERPP, embodied in the Conservation Strategy; (3) other issues as needed. (May not necessarily be part of Overview)

III. Process

A. Conservation Strategy

1. Discuss the relationship between ERPP and the Conservation Strategy; if appropriate and accurate, state that ERPP incorporates measures defined in existing Recovery Plans.
2. Discuss and define Adaptive Management process in more detail.

IV. Implementing Mechanisms

A. Federal ESA Section 7 Consultation; Part 3: Potential Assurances Associates with Section 7

1. Discuss adaptive management in this section.

V. Implementation Phasing

1. Discuss implementation and phasing of ESA Compliance and Conservation Strategy over the life of the whole CALFED Program; describe steps/process for those projects not defined at the end of Phase II.
2. Provide an example or examples to illustrate the above, e.g., storage action, levee action, ERPP action.
3. Describe the benefits of this comprehensive strategy compared with dealing with ESA compliance on a project by project basis.